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Democratic party, Gloucester Co. 1

At a meeting of the Democratic Republicans of the county of Gloucester, convened by advertisements, and held at the court house in Woodberry, on the 31st day of August, 1807, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the legislature, and a sheriff and coroner for said county:

PREVIOUS to the nomination, the substance of the following address, containing a brief narrative of the most oppressive laws passed during the federal administration, their extravagant expenditure of the public money, prosecutions, fines and imprisonments, to prevent freedom of speech, or an investigation of their conduct; contrasted with the conduct of the present administration was delivered by the president (James Sloan,) unanimously approved by the meeting, 500 copies ordered to be printed, together with the names of the candidates, and distributed amongst the electors of the aforesaid county, in the usual manner, for their information, after which, the following candidates were unanimously agreed upon, and earnestly recommended by said meeting as democratic republicans, firm friends and supporters of our excellent administration, and as such, worthy of the support of every elector of the county of Gloucester, at the ensuing election, who is a real friend to the prosperity, peace and happiness of these United States.

Council, RICHARD M. COOPER.

Assembly, BEJAMIN RULON,
JACOB GLOVER and
SCOBY STEWART.

Sheriff, EPHRAIM MILLER,

Coroners, JOSEPH SLOAN,
JAMES MILLER and
ROBERT LEEDS.

FRIENDS, COUNTRYMEN AND FELLOW CITIZENS,

IT is with great diffidence, I rise to attempt the performance of the task assigned me this day—this diffidence arises partly from a consciousness of my inability, and partly from being again called into action, contrary to my own desire, which was to have retired from the various troubled scenes of life; and the few remaining days that may be allotted me, to have walked softly on my solemn western shore, from which I must soon embark to a world as yet unknown; but the only sovereign under God, which I acknowledge the people, having forbid my proposed quiet and silent retreat, by placing me again, as one of the guardians of their rights and liberties, and commanded me again to stand on my watch tower, their command I obey, and as formerly consider it my duty, to expose to public view the conduct of public servants, and warn my fellow citizens of impending danger arising from foreign or domestic enemies; or the more dangerous intrigues of internal pretended friends—in attempting to perform the duty you have assigned me, I ask the aid of your spirits, and serious attention, assuring you, that nothing short of a sense of duty, arising from my earnest desire, that the present inestimable blessings that the people of the United States enjoy, may be continued through all succeeding generations, could have induced me to have undertaken the arduous task.

Agreeable to the expectation given in the advertisements by which this meeting has been convened, I shall now proceed to state some facts, exposing to public view, the conduct of the former federal administration; (so called) contrasted with the present democratic administration. In doing which, I shall shew that many of the people of these United States, have been, and still are deceived, and imposed upon by perverting the meaning of words, particularly the following, viz. federal, *democrat* and *party*—and and first of the word *party*—the fact is from the commencement of the revolutionary war to the present time, there has been but one party and one faction, a noble patriotic party, whose views are, to release mankind from the oppression and tyranny of monarchical and aristocratical factions, under which they have long groaned; and to restore to them their inherent and unalienable rights—on the other side, a base faction who determined to counteract the decree of Heaven, in procuring their bread by the sweat of

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their brows ; are under the necessity of procuring it by deceptive fraud or force ; in the old world, (particularly England) this faction is headed by the superior clergy, nobility, privileged orders and incorporated companies—in these United States by lawyers, whose living depends upon the folly, wickedness and distress of the people, and such of the clergy as wish to see an established church, British merchants, their agents and the agents, spies and emissaries, immediately under the direction and pay of that corrupt government, who failing in her attempt to subjugate the colonies, has since, manifested the most implacable enmity to these United States, and incessantly strove to effect by fraud and deception, what she was unable to do by force of arms, that is to say, to extinguish that sacred flame of liberty, that inspired the patriots of the revolutionary war, at the risk of life, to oppose her tyranny : the leaders of this base faction, have in various ages of the world assumed various names, in order to deceive the innocent unsuspecting part of the people, and under every name to cover their nefarious designs, making a high profession of religion, and that all their views are solely directed to support order and good government. In the revolutionary war which produced the independence of these United States, this faction was called tories ; that is to say, enemies to the revolution, and supporters of the monarchical government to which the colonies had been subject—after framing our present constitution, they assumed the name of federalists, (a name as applicable to a confederated band of highway robbers or pirates, as to the most virtuous) and branded all who did not extol said constitution “as a model of perfection” with the name of anti-federalists and enemies to the union ; notwithstanding it being self-evident, without the amendatory articles since annexed, it might have been used as an engine exactly fitted for their purpose, viz. to gradually deprive the people of their inherent rights, and finally reduce them to the same state of slavery which the citizens of the old world have long suffered, under monarchical and aristocratical factions, under the name of federalists they deceived the people, and concealed their real design, every session of congress adding new laws copied from British statute books, (as will be shewn hereafter) until they thought themselves strong enough to throw off the mask “and by a few bold strokes, silence all opposition”—but finding the spirit of liberty was yet too strong, that the people were yet strongly attached to a democratic

republican form of government; they were again obliged to have recourse to deception, by adding to their assumed name of federal, that of republican, (an indefinite term, as applicable to many aristocrats, as to many democrats) now passing in this state under the name of federal republicans, their leaders as heretofore, evincing as implacable enmity to democracy, as the priests of Diana in days of old, did to the spreading of the gospel, and for the same reason, that is to say, because it opens to the people their deceptive oppression and tyranny, which if generally known, would deprive them of their power and influence, and prevent them in future, from living in idleness, riot and luxury, upon the unjust gain of oppression, as they have heretofore done.

I will here present you the definition of the words party, and faction, First, by Sir William Jones, “(party says he) is grounded on principle; faction on self interest, or that of a few, which excludes principle.”—Second by the Venerable Charles Thompson, secretary to Congress, during the revolutionary war, distinguished by superior learning and talents, exemplary in piety and virtue, whose uniform attachment to the sacred cause of liberty, renders his name dear to every real friend to the just principle of our revolution, set forth in our declaration of independence in the the following words, “We hold these truths to be self evident, that God hath created all men equal, that he hath endowed them with certain unalienable rights, amongst which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

“Party (says he) is the association of men for the general interest—such as the enactment of good laws, the maintenance of civil liberty, the resistance of tyranny, the advancement of morality, and whatever else will promote the good of man and society: Faction on the other hand, has a partial object, and is indifferent to general good—its object is to promote a particular, at the expense of a general interest—it prefers the enrichment or aggrandizement of one or of a few; to the comfort and prosperity of the whole. A republic is founded in the spirit of party—all other governments are founded in the spirit of faction; and all factions have a monarchical, or aristocratical tendency, however disguised from public observation, or even from its own blind partizans.”

From the foregoing definition it is evident there has not been, nor is at present, but one party and one faction in these United States—that the leaders of the self-styled fe-

deral republicans have been, and still are, enemies to our democratic government. I shall now proceed to prove by the best testimony that can possibly be adduced, *their fruits*, but first shew, that our government is a democracy, consequently every supporter thereof a democrat, and in order more fully to explain the subject, I will subjoin the definition of all the forms of government, I find in dictionaries, as follows: 1st. Monarchy, "the government of a single person."

2d. Aristocracy, "that form of government which places the supreme power in the nobles."

3d. Democracy, "one of the three forms of government; that in which the sovereign power is lodged in the body of the people."

None I trust will presume to say, that our government is either a monarchy or an aristocracy; consequently there being but three forms, ours must be a democracy; but if any doubt remains it must be removed by recurring to the preamble of our constitution in the following words, "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America."

Mark fellow citizens, not we the representatives of the people, but "We the people." Can any government be more democratical? can any name be more applicable to the leaders of the federal faction, than traitors to the best of governments; who (as I shall now proceed to shew) whilst in power, represented democracy and democrats as the most detestable of all things, and incessantly strove to assimilate it to the worst on earth, (great Britain) and since they have been deprived of power, by a great majority of a much injured people, have joined (if not plotted) one of the most wicked diabolical conspiracies, having for its object the destruction of an administration, and form of government, the best calculated to promote the general happiness of mankind of any now existing upon earth. If any doubt this assertion, that many of the leaders of the federal faction were engaged in supporting the conspiracy of that incendiary, vile apostate, and arch traitor, Burr; they are informed that it can be incontestably proved by a cloud of witnesses from all parts of the United States were it necessary; but a few facts already made

public, is sufficient to convince every impartial mind. 1st. their principal leader (Jonathan Dayton) being indicted for high treason, and secreting himself to prevent being arrested, is an evident proof of his guilt. 2d. the following extract of a letter wrote in the Federal City by Gaylord Griswold a member of congress from the state of New York, is in my opinion conclusive evidence. " The movements of Burr, (said Mr. Griswold) disturb the quiet of their souls—he will shake the very centre of the conclave. You may rest assured my good fellow, that if our friends play true, Burr will chastize these usurpers of power, with a rod they deserve—he is no more one of their party, though for certain purposes must so appear—rely upon this as true; he is the only person who can chastise these fellows, and policy dictates our uniting to give him a support. All our federal friends in this city (Washington) have the same opinion—all the judges of the supreme court are united with us in this opinion." From my own knowledge of the federal members in congress, and the judges of the supreme court, I believe the purport of the above letter to be strictly true, and the conduct of the chief justice and federal lawyers upon the trial of those traitors now pending, places the matter beyond all doubt.

The federals (so called) assumed the reins of government in the year 1789, and held them nearly twelve years, that is to say, until the 3d of March, 1801, a time by their own repeated declarations on the floor of congress and elsewhere, of unexampled prosperity; notwithstanding which, instead of diminishing, they increased our national debt, 9,400,000 dollars—they first passed a law funding our public debt, calculated to encourage and support Tories, speculators and stock-jobbers, those harpies who live by preying upon the vitals of the honest industrious citizens—by this law, the soldiers certificates which at the close of the war, had generally been sold from $1/10\frac{1}{2}$ to $2/6$ in the pound, (principally to the Tories and traders with the British, who thereby became possessed of hard money,) was redeemable at 20s—hence our debt, which if justly funded, would have been little more than thirty, exceeded seventy millions of dollars; Tories British agents, and the bitterest enemies of our revolution, were raised into a state of opulence, at the expence of the honest citizens and soldiers, who at the risk of life, had purchased our independence—thus enemies and traitors were publicly rewarded, and a door of speculation opened, which during

the federal administration, brought these United States to the brink of ruin—from this time to the close of their administration, they evinced an implacable hatred to democracy, and a determination to assimilate our government to the worst on earth, (England) as appears by the laws passed, being generally copied from British statute books, the excise law, and the law changing the time for aliens to become citizens, from two to fourteen years passed—* August 10, 1790, they laid a duty of 12 cents on every 50lbs, of salt imported into the United States, and in July, 1797, an additional duty of 8 cents, thus, this essentially necessary article principally consumed by the poor and middle classes, paid more than 100 per cent. on prime cost; while foreign fripperies and articles of luxury used by the rich, paid from 10 to 20 per cent.—July 6, 1797, they passed an infamous stamp act upon the British plan, and June 25, 1798, passed an alien law, authorising the President to banish such aliens as he thought proper, without any trial, or even information of what offence they were charged with, and July the 6th of the same year, a law obliging aliens to give security for their good behavior. Here let me ask you my dear fellow citizens, is there a human being on earth, whose breast is not filled with abhorrence to the very names of such laws; and detestation to the inhuman tyrants that could advocate and finally place their signatures thereto. Laws placing at the will of an individual, many thousands of human beings, who when the colonists were contending with the tyrant of Great Britain for liberty, were invited to join in the common cause, and in consequence thereof, had fled from the tyranny of European despots, expecting in these United States to find a safe assylum for the sufferers of all nations, enabling him to send a band of armed mercenaries to the peaceful cottage, and rend the aged sire from his bosom friend and beloved offspring, and without informing him of the cause, transport him to the frozen regions of Siberia, there, far seperated from all the near and dear connexions of life, to mourn out the remainder of his days, looking anxiously for the approach of death, as his only hope and welcome deliverer!—Oh! ye who yet continue to support the remnant of this fallen, this callous, cruel and superlatively wicked faction; exclaim no more against letters de catchet, against bastiles, French tyranny or savage cruelty, or even the

* The volumes containing those laws, not being in my possession. I am unable to give the dates.

papish inquisition; if you have left, any tender feelings of humanity, the inhuman laws passed by your federal faction whilst in power, and their leaders joining Burr's infernal conspiracy since, must cover you with shame and confusion of face, and reduce you to a state of penitent silence!

To proceed, July 16, 1798, they passed a law authorizing the President to borrow 5,000,000 of dollars at 8 per cent, the interest to be paid quarterly, and 2,000,000 more, on the credit of the direct tax, and March the 2d, 1799, 2,000,000 more, and also a law to raise 12,000 men additional to the standing army, they commissioned and commenced the pay of officers for the whole, but the people were by this time so alarmed at their evident design to subvert our government, and introduce one similar to the British, that their utmost exertions to enlist men procured little more than 3,000—finding themselves defeated in this diabolical scheme to enslave the people, they had recourse to another, viz. to pass a law authorizing the President to take into pay, and actual service, a large number of Volunteers; but the virtue of the people blasted this infernal scheme to enslave them also!

On the 14th day of July, 1798, they passed a law inflicting a penalty on persons libelling the government, and January 30, 1799 they passed their inquisitorial, and ever to be detested sedition, (commonly called gag) law to prevent any inquiry or exposure of their base conduct—thus entrenched they attempted by a few bold strokes to silence all opposition, they proceeded to prosecute, fine and imprison those who dare assert their inherent right to liberty and freedom of speech, oppose their tyranny, or expose their villainy; insomuch that on the third of March 1801, (the last day of their political existence) they were obliged to pass a law appropriating 30,000 dollars to defray the expence of prosecutions and the expence of keeping prisoners!

I will add but one more to the black catalogue of their crimes whilst in power, viz. a law passed July 9, 1798, ordering a valuation to be made of dwelling houses, land and slaves, and an account taken of the number of lights, and on the 14th of the same month a direct tax was ordered to be levied, the collection whereof so alarmed the people, that they arose in the might of their power, they forced their intrenchments which they had twelve years been fortifying, they drove them from their strong holds, and from their proud, high, and lofty mountain, (from whence in the pride of their hearts they had looked down with contempt upon the people, as an inferior order of be-

ings made for their use) they cast them into the stigious vale of contempt, where like Lucifer and his fallen angels they have been incessantly plotting to deceive the people, and striving to regain that power they so grossly abused ; and were so justly deprived of.—Fellow Citizens, from the foregoing statement of facts, I conceive I have fully proved that the leaders of the federal faction were enemies to our Democratic government ; and strove to the utmost of their power to assimilate it to the British—but lest any doubt should remain I will adduce some further evidence which must carry conviction to every impartial mind. Their leader (John Adams) asserted the British constitution to be “ the most stupendous fabric of human wisdom a model of perfection ” and impiously, or rather blasphemously declared “ that the finger of heaven pointed to war ” against the French republic, then nobly contending for liberty against a powerful coalition of European despots—many of them were anxious to enter into an alliance offensive and defensive with England, and to confine the right of voting to a small number possessed of freeholds or large property.* The President in high monarchical stile, at the opening of every session of Congress, at an appointed hour, went in great pomp, and delivered a speech to both houses of Congress, in imitation of his great prototype George the third’s most gracious speeches to both houses of parliament, which in like manner occasioned a debate of several weeks to agree in what manner it should be echoed back—he held Levees in the British monarchical stile, and his wife her balls in imitation of the Queen’s drawing room—and to place the matter beyond all doubt, he and his partizans supported a British hireling printer at the then seat of government (Philadelphia) for the express purpose of abusing, and vilifying our Democratic government, and its supporters ; and on the other hand applauding, and passing the highest eulogiums his genius could invent upon the British monarchy and its advocates—in a word, they held up to the people the Democrats as the most detestable of all beings, and those who did not take and approve this British hireling’s obscene and scurrilous paper as enemies to our government.

Having shewn the attachment of the leaders of the Federal faction to the British government and their incessant endeavours to assimilate ours thereto, and connect us therewith ; I shall proceed to a very brief statement of the na-

* If this fact is disputed, I stand ready to prove it upon divers of their leaders even in this county.

ture and effect of said government, upon its own subjects, and the nations of the earth in general—first, as to her own subjects in their present state, divided into five parts, we find 3 parts, viz. Clergy, Nobility, and Officers, Soldiers and Seamen, armed against the other two classes, unarmed, viz. Farmers and Mechanics, who they have reduced to as perfect a state of Vassalage, and a greater degree of poverty and suffering than the African slaves in our Southern States; one fourth, of the two fifths, who are endeavouring to procure their bread by honest labour, being by the cruel oppressive laws, and enormous taxes, reduced to the state of paupers, supported at the public expence—here we also find more criminal prosecutions, more unhappy victims confined in jails, more executions and banishments than under any other government on earth. Let us next take a retrospective of the conduct of this government towards other nations—here we shall find it fomenting more wars, subjecting more innocent and unoffending human beings, to a state of cruel unconditional slavery, causing more human blood to be shed, in a word, adding more to the quantum of human misery, than all other nations of the earth added together! to prove this I will not detain you with a detailed account of the numerous wars she has fomented during the eighteenth century and previous to the French revolution, but briefly call your attention to the countless numbers of innocent unoffending Africans that she has rent from all the near and dear connections in life to supply her own colonies and other nations with slaves—in this horrid traffic (which we think none but infernal dæmons in human shape could engage in) she has done more than all other nations of the earth.—Next take a view of the East Indies, and drop with me a sympathizing tear over the mouldering clay of many millions of the Asiatics (as honest, harmless, and inoffensive people as any in the universe). Innocent victims sacrificed by sword and famine to gratify the insatiable thirst for gold, of those pretended Christians (but in fact infernal monsters) the British administration and its supporters. The celebrated author of the political progress of Great Britain, states, that in 30 years previous to the French revolution, that government had caused to perish by sword, famine, slavery &c. more than thirty-one millions of human beings—the wars that she has fomented since that period being within the memory of most present, I will briefly recite,

first, the treaty of Pilnitz, which had for its object the conquest and partition of republican France, she was a principal in, if not the first instigator—three coalitions has since been formed by her intrigues, and gold wrested from her suffering subjects, and plundered from her inoffending neighbours; but blind indeed methinks must that nation, or individual be, who after taking an impartial retrospective view of the fate of those apparent mighty and powerful coalitions, cannot see in their defeat an overruling and Almighty power, that doeth whatever he seeth meet in heaven, and amongst the children of men, who bringeth to nought the counsel of the ungodly, and when the cup of national iniquity is full, confuseth the wisdom of the wise, and causeth the strength of the mighty to fail. Thus it appears to me that this protestant whore of Babylon, who hath long been drunk with the blood of nations, who hath multiplied the cries of the widows, and fatherless, and spread desolation in every quarter of the world; will herself shortly be made desolate, and be cast down to rise no more—happy for the nations of the earth when the power of those piratical murderers are destroyed; but thrice happy for her oppressed subjects, who reduced to a state of starvation, are compelled silently to bear the piercing pangs of hunger, and in secret places strew their briny tears produced by excruciating grief for their tender suffering offspring; well knowing that complaint to those callous tyrants that are living in riot and luxury on the product of their labour, would be treated with contempt, and that resistance, or the least attempt to regain their liberty, would subject them to prisons, halters, gibbets, and the worse than savage cruelty, of her mercenary assassins! I will conclude with stating the increase of her public debt during the last century, and its amount in 1807.

In 1700 it was 16,000,000 pounds sterling.

1714	50,000,000
1728	55,000,000
1739	46,000,000
1748	78,000,000
1755	75,000,000
1763	139,000,000
1770	134,000,000
1775	129,000,000
1783	262,000,000

Hence it appears, that their debt was more than doubled in their attempt to enslave the colonies of North America.

In 1786 it was 266,000,000

1793 267,000,000

From the treaty of Pilnitz before mentioned during the subsequent war carried on for the purpose of conquering and dividing the republic of France until 1801, her debt was increased to the enormous sum of 465,000,000, and from the peace of Amiens to 1806, to 600,000,000. Such are the effects of a system so long held up by the Federals, as a model of perfection, and which to the utmost of their power they strove to assimilate our government unto, and force us into an alliance with, and such are the consequences of a government, which first plunders the farmer and mechanic, to enable the villains in power to plunder the world. Is there an honest heart in the United States that doth not rejoice in the failure of the attempt to connect us with that government, whereby we must have eventually been involved in its ruin. Doth not the heart of every real friend to Universal Liberty and Justice, overflow with gratitude to the great preserver of men, in commemoration of the 4th of March 1801, (that happy day that placed our present Chief Magistrate in the presidential chair) and the great (may I not say incalculable) benefits that have since arisen therefrom, to which I now proceed.

As soon as our present president, entered upon the duties of his office, he dismissed all superfluous officers in his power, and recommended to the next session of congress, to abolish all internal taxes, which restored more taxable articles to the respective states, than is sufficient to defray the expences of their governments; he has also recommended the abolishment of many superfluous offices, by which means in a short space of time, upwards of 3,000 officers, who had been appointed by the federal administration to add to their influence, strengthen their power, and act as spies and informers, to suppress the liberties of the people, were dismissed; by which, and other just economical means, the expences of civil government are reduced from seven, to less than two millions of dollars. To proceed, with only the revenue arising from the impost on articles imported into the United States, and the sale of public lands, in the short space of five years and a half, in which time, the Tripolitans (not by paying tribute as the federal administration did) were compelled by force of arms to make an

honorab!e peace. It appears by the report of the secretary, that the interest on our public debt has been punctually and fully paid ; and upwards of 24,000,000 of dollars of the principal, (and upon the present plan, the whole will be paid in twelve years more,) and 5,000,000 of dollars remaining in the treasury unappropriated, which sum, was by a law of last session of congress, appropriated to the purchase of the three per cent. deferred stock, (which by the federals had been modelled into the form of a perpetual annuity, upon the British corrupt plan) the president also recommended the repeal of the oppressive, unequal and therefore unjust duty upon salt, which is done—a law also, passed last session, prohibiting the importation of slaves after the 1st of January 1808—a great and fertile country has been purchased, larger than the original United States, for the trivial sum of 15,000,000 of dollars, the payments so easy, that it is probable the revenue arising therefrom, will discharge the whole purchase money within the time set for payment. By this purchase we have secured the navigation of the river Mississippi so essential to the commerce of our western states—prevented the settlement thereof by enemies, and secured a territory capable of producing sugar and tropical fruits sufficient for all the United States, for which we have heretofore been beholden to foreign nations—our commerce has increased in a manner unparalleled in the history of mankind, also our population and the settlement of our great and fertile western country—through the just and wise administration towards the Indian tribes, they are changed from ferocious and cruel enemies, to peaceful friends and allies. Peace is preserved with all nations, entangling alliances is entered into with none—our president affects no monarchical parade ; but sets a worthy example of plainness and unaffected simplicity of manners, becoming the Chief Magistrate of a great Republic and free people ; evincing at all times in his official capacity, that he considers the people the only legitimate sovereigns ; and officers by them appointed their servants—being reviled, he revileth not again ; but submits to the decision of truth and reason, the only weapons (as he declared in his inaugural speech) that ought to be used to suppress falshood and error—in a word, freedom of investigating the conduct of our public servants is restored ; our prisons are not filled with victims of monarchical and aristocratical tyranny as in John Adams's administration, nor our money appropriated to carry on cruel and

unjust prosecutions—our peace is not disturbed by recruiting parties endeavouring to seduce our inexperienced youth to enlist, and join with the idle and dissipated part of the community, who rather than procure their bread by honest labor ; will become the mercenary executioners of any monarchical or aristocratical faction, that will put arms in their hands to execute their wicked will—the repeal of all oppressive and unjust laws and the justice and prudence of our administration, has restored peace and harmony amongst our citizens, (except the leaders of the federal faction beforementioned) and procured their love and confidence, which (as has been recently proved in quelling Burr's conspiracy) is a more sure, safe, cheap and powerful defence, than a standing army of hired mercenaries—thus we see the declaration of the wise man in days of old verified, “ that when the righteous bear rule the earth is at peace.”

HAVING, fellow citizens, to the best of my knowledge discharged my duty, and the trust you have reposed in me, by laying before you a true and faithful statement of the measures of the two administrations—the former (called federal) exhibiting a scene of monarchical parade, extravagant waste and embezzlement of public money, rapidly increasing our national debt. Every session of Congress (particularly during Adams' administration) passing laws, increasing the burthens of the people, similar to those in Great Britain, anxiously striving to bring the United States, into an alliance with her, whereby we must have been involved in her unjust, and cruel wars, and finally in her ruin—and when the people complained ; instead of attending to their complaints, and redressing their grievances ; a law was passed to stop their mouths, and an attempt made to raise a standing army to silence their complaints (as the British Government doth) with the sharp pointed bayonets of mercenary assassins. Our prisons were filled with victims of governmental fury, and our money applied to prosecute such of our fellow citizens as durst expose their fraud, or oppose their tyranny ; which finally so alarmed the people that by their elective franchise, they hurled those monarchical, and aristocratical tyrants from their high and exalted seats, which had they succeeded in raising a standing army, could only have been effected by force of arms, when brother, must have been armed against brother, the horrors of civil war introduced, and probably much human kindred blood been shed. The present De-

mocratic administration cannot be better described than by saying it presents a scene altogether the reverse ; as much more congenial to the inherent rights of man, and the peace and prosperity of these United States, as is the prolific rays of the glorious luminary of heaven, calling from earth's fertile womb, sweet vernal blooms, prophetic of the delicious fruits of summer, or perfecting the golden harvest, and substantial product of autumn ; compared with the piercing blasts of the frigid Zone.

Here let me earnestly intreat my fellow citizens to bear in mind, that the foregoing statement is not the bare assertion of an individual liable to be prejudiced in favour of one side or the other ; but generally taken from the laws, and records of congress and reports of the Secretary of the treasury, to which any citizen may have access for proof ; and such parts as are not, I stand ready to prove before any court of judicature—leaving to the good sense, honesty, and virtues of the citizens of this county, and the United States in general, to decide which is intitled to most credibility, a statement of facts, with the author's name annexed, whereby he is rendered responsible to his fellow citizens ; or anonymous publications and false reports,* whose authors like cowardly nocturnal assassins, are ashamed and afraid to shew their faces, well knowing that if their deeds were exposed to the light of truth, instead of retaining any influence or confidence of the people ; they would be despised by every honest citizen, and their names consigned to eternal infamy.

I should here conclude, were I not compelled by the love that flows in my heart in a particular manner towards that society with whom I had my education, and whose principles I still more approve than any other, the people commonly called Quakers to add a few words : You my dear friends above all other societies in these United States are bound by your principles, as well as gratitude (the noblest passion of the human mind) to support our present pacific administration, it being the nearest likeness of a government such as you would form, had you the sole power, of any on earth, its motto, (and practice in unison

* In conversation with a respectable Citizen of this county a few weeks past, he told me he had heard several respectable federals declare positively, that our government had given Bonaparte at one time 30,000,000 and at another time 16,000,000, making in the whole 46,000,000 of dollars to preserve peace, and good will—to such infernal liars, I say no more, than barely to call their remembrance to the existence of a just God, who will finally reward every man according to his works.

therewith), being “peace with all nations entangling alliances with none” it rejects all wars as evil, and unjust, but hose purely defensive—here then is but a single shade of difference between our present form of government, and that for which you have so long, and so nobly contended and suffered—in seriously reflecting upon this subject, methinks your hearts must overflow with gratitude and praise, to the God and Father of all our mercies, for this glorious change wrought in the hearts of a great majority of the people of these United States, in favour of that blessed principle “that breathes peace on earth, and good will to men.” I have often during my temporary residence at the seat of government, remembered you in a feeling sense of that love that would gather all into the fold of eternal rest; and said in my heart, oh that my beloved friends throughout the union, could but see what I see, and know what I know; could they but see, and know for themselves the plainness, humility, and simplicity of manners of our President, and his unremitted endeavours in conjunction with his supporters, to lighten the burdens of the people, and restore to them their inherent rights and liberties; they would no more at elections support his opponents, and most bitter implacable enemies.

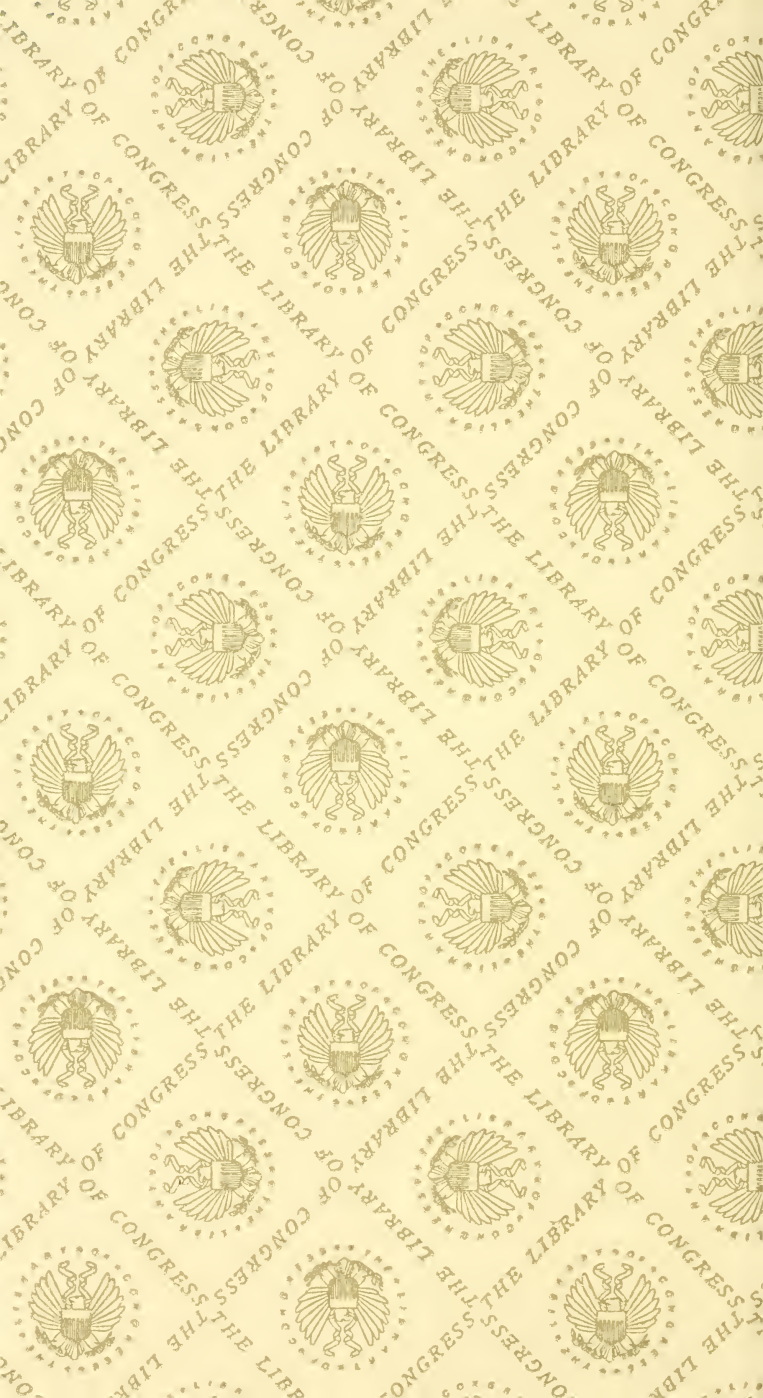
Dear friends, I can but with the little captive maid in days of old, earnestly desire that all who have been and still remain to be affected with the leprosy caught from the whore of Babylon (before mentioned) or those who have committed fornication with her, were with the prophet that is in Israel, who would heal them of their malady—earnestly desiring, yea, fervently praying, that in future you may be led and guided by that unerring spirit of truth, which is the only safe and sure guide, ordained by infinite wisdom for the children of men, I bid you affectionately farewell, and conclude with an earnest exhortation to all to turn their attention from men to measures—the only safe and just criterion to judge men by, is their fruits, consisting of words and actions—let this rule be attended to, and then I am bold to say, that when truly informed, every honest hearted American in these United States, will consider himself in duty bound, to support that party, that are to the utmost of their power lightening the burdens of the people, and by their just and pacific conduct, continuing the peace, and increasing the prosperity, wealth and happiness of the Union—earnestly praying that the God of peace, grace, mercy and truth, whose almighty power

hath begun, and so far carried on this blessed work, may incline the people to unite as with the heart of one man, to further, carry on, and perfect the same—that he may open the hearts of the children of men universally, to the knowlege of this eternal truth; that God is love, and that that those that live in him live in love—hence, when that blessed and happy era of time shall arrive spoken of by the prophet, “when the knowlege of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea,” then will commence universal peace, the product of pure love, then shall the sucking child play upon the hole of the asp, and the weaned child on the cockatrice den, the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, and the lion instead of rending and devouring flesh and blood, shall eat straw like an ox—swords shall be beat into plow shares, and spears into pruning hooks—nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more!—I conclude your faithful affectionate friend and fellow citizen,

JAMES SLOAN.

N. B. I have heard some who have been fully convinced of the evil conduct of the federal administration; and the great advantages that hath already arose from the change, observe, that there is good honest federalists that would make as good members of a legislature as democrats—to these I recommend the consideration of this circumstance, viz. I have never in the house of congress known a single instance, nor heard of one in any state legislature; wherein in a political question, a federal member, has voted with the democrats; but in all cases evinced the most bitter, implacable and vindictive disposition towards the present administration, and its supporters—hence it is as absurd and improper for any who wish well thereto, to vote for a federal; as it would be to vote for the king of England to be president of these United States.

Timber Creek September 20th 1880





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